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/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK

SUBJECT: MEDIA SUMMARY: DECEMBER 10-12, 2005

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SUMMARY:

THE DEBATE ON WHETHER OR NOT TO BUILD THE CONTROVERSIAL KALABAGH DAM IN NWFP ONCE AGAIN HAS BECOME THE CENTER OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEBATE AND ATTENTION, AS PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF STARTS A FRESH CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF THE DAM. CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS" REPORTS "PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF ON SUNDAY HELD OUT A FIRM ASSURANCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE CONSTITUTIONAL OR ANY OTHER GUARANTEE IN ORDER TO REMOVE SINDH'S APPREHENSIONS OVER THE CONSTRUCTION OF WATER RESERVOIRS, INCLUDING THE KALABAGH DAM." (PARA 1)

A U.S. EMBASSY-GENERATED ARTICLE ON THE ARRIVAL OF USAID-SUPPLIED PLASTIC SHEETING AND SHELTER KITS FOR THE EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS, AS WELL AS A FACT-SHEET ON THE OVERALL U.S. RELIEF EFFORT, RECEIVED WIDE AND EXTENSIVE COVERAGE IN THE PAKISTANI NEWSPAPERS TODAY. HEADLINE IN THE ISLAMABAD-BASED URDU DAILY, "JINNAH" READS: "ANOTHER CONSIGNMENT OF PLASTIC SHEETS DONATED BY USAID ARRIVED IN PAKISTAN FOR QUAKE VICTIMS." EVEN THE TALIBAN MOUTHPIECE URDU DAILY, "ISLAM" ACKNOWLEDGES, "A FACT SHEET RELEASED BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION ON DEC 11, 2005, SAYS THAT THE U.S. HAS PLEDGED TO PROVIDE PAKISTAN 510 MILLION DOLLARS FOR RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION WORK IN THE QUAKE AFFECTED AREAS. AMERICAN HELICOPTERS HAVE FLOWN 3,370 RELIEF OPERATIONS, DELIVERING 5,901 TONS OF RELIEF GOODS IN THE DISASTER HIT AREAS." HOWEVER, QAZI HUSSAIN AHMAD, THE CHIEF OF MMA, AN ALLIANCE OF RELIGIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES IN PAKISTAN, CLAIMED THAT NATO FORCES HAVE COME TO PAKISTAN UNINVITED AND THAT THEY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY LEAVE. KARACHI-BASED JIHADI URDU DAILY, "UMMAT" ALSO QUOTES HIM SAYING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE UNITED STATES "WAS USING NATO FOR ITS 'GREATER MIDDLE EAST' PLAN." HE ALSO SAID THAT THE RELIGIOUS PARTIES ALLIANCE (MMA) WAS ALSO CONCERNED AT THE PRESENCE OF THE U.S. TROOPS IN PAKISTAN. (PARAS 3-5)

SEVERAL PAPERS TODAY PROMINENTLY REPORT U.S. PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, PETER F VARGA'S PRAISE FOR THE PAK ARMY'S ROLE IN THE QUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS IN PAKISTAN. BRIEFING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ON U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE EARTHQUAKE AFFECTED PEOPLE HE IS QUOTED SAYING, "DESPITE

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THE FACT THAT MANY SOLDIERS OF PAKISTAN ARMY LOST THEIR COMRADES AND FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE OCTOBER 8 EARTHQUAKE, THEIR COMMITMENT TO DUTY HAS BEEN UNWAVERING. WE MUST NOTE THE EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE OF THE PAKISTANI ARMY DURING THE CRISIS." (REPORT PUBLISHED BY "THE POST").

(PARA 2)

IN OTHER STORIES, PRESTIGIOUS ENGLISH DAILY, "DAWN" TODAY HAS PUBLISHED A STORY ON 'WHO MOST LIKELY IS GOING TO REPLACE ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROCCA.' THE NEW YORK AND ISLAMABAD CORRESPONDENTS OF THE DAILY JOINTLY FILED THE STORY. STORY CLAIMS THAT RICHARD BOUCHER, FORMER U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, "IS TIPPED TO BECOME THE NEXT U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA." SOURCE OF THEIR STORY: "HIGHLY-INFORMED SOURCES AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT." THE STORY ALSO PROVIDES SOME ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE SOUTH ASIA BUREAU. "AN ADDITIONAL 26 OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE BUREAU TO STRENGTHEN IT." (PARA 7)

IN OPINION, AN OP-ED IN THE LAHORE-BASED ENGLISH DAILY,
/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 *****/

"THE POST" COMPLAINS "WHEN IT COMES TO PAKISTAN, THE US TENDS TO PUT DEMOCRATIZATION ON THE BACKBURNER AND INSTEAD PURSUES POLICIES THAT FURTHER THE US'S OWN INTERESTS AND HINDER PAKISTAN'S DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT." IN AN EDITORIAL THE SECOND LARGEST URDU DAILY, "NAWA-E-WAQF" DECLARES THAT "JUST TO PLEASE THE U.S., PAKISTAN IS USING MILITARY FORCE AGAINST ITS OWN PEACE LOVING PEOPLE OF SOUTH WAZIRISTAN." THE DAILY DEMANDS, "PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD STOP THIS MILITARY OPERATION IMMEDIATELY." AN OP-ED IN A LAHORE-BASED PRO-PML-N URDU DAILY, "PAKISTAN," WRITTEN BY THE CHIEF EDITOR OF THE DAILY, ACKNOWLEDGES THE IMPORTANCE OF DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE INTELLECTUALS OF THE EAST AND THE WEST. 'THE DIALOGUE' HAS PROVIDED A SINGLE PLATFORM FOR AMERICAN AND ASIAN INTELLECTUALS. IT IS HOPED THAT IN THE DAYS TO COME THESE CONTACTS WOULD GET MORE IMPETUS." (PARAS 14, 15 AND 22) END SUMMARY.

-- NEWS STORIES

1. "MUSHARRAF OFFERS CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEE ON DAMS SAYS KALABAGH DAM TO RAISE SINDH'S WATER SHARE BY 2PC"

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"THE NEWS" 12/12/05

"PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF ON SUNDAY HELD OUT A FIRM ASSURANCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE CONSTITUTIONAL OR ANY OTHER GUARANTEE IN ORDER TO REMOVE SINDH'S APPREHENSIONS OVER THE CONSTRUCTION OF WATER RESERVOIRS, INCLUDING THE KALABAGH DAM. 'CONSTITUTIONAL OR ANY OTHER GUARANTEE SINDH WILL ASK FOR, WE WILL CERTAINLY PROVIDE 200 PER CENT,' THE PRESIDENT SAID WHILE TALKING TO EDITORS AND SENIOR JOURNALISTS OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWSPAPERS HERE AT THE GOVERNOR HOUSE. 'IT WILL BE A WATER-TIGHT GUARANTEE THAT NO INJUSTICE WILL OCCUR TO ANYONE.'..."

2. "US LAUDS PAKISTAN ARMY FOR RELIEF EFFORTS" "THE POST" (12/12)

"DESPITE THE FACT THAT MANY SOLDIERS OF PAKISTAN ARMY LOST THEIR COMRADES AND FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE OCTOBER 8 EARTHQUAKE, YET THEIR COMMITMENT TO DUTY HAS BEEN UNWAVERING. THE DEDICATION OF PAKISTANI SOLDIERS TO THEIR COUNTRY DESPITE THEIR OWN PERSONAL LOSSES IS COMMENDABLE, SAID PETER F VERGA, PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE, WHILE SPEAKING BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA AND PACIFIC OF US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE'S COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. GIVING AN UPDATE ON IMPACT OF US RESPONSE TO THE SOUTH ASIA EARTHQUAKE, VERGA SAID: 'WE MUST NOTE THE EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE OF PAKISTANI ARMY DURING THE CRISIS. THE PRINCIPAL BURDEN OF DEALING WITH THE RELIEF EFFORT FELL ON THE PAKISTAN MILITARY'...."

3. "ANOTHER CONSIGNMENT OF PLASTIC SHEETS DONATED BY USAID ARRIVED IN PAKISTAN FOR QUAKE VICTIMS" "JINNAH" (12/12)

"... USAID HAS ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW SHIPMENT OF PLASTIC SHEETS SUFFICIENT TO WINTERIZE THE SHELTERS OF AN ADDITIONAL 17,500 FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE OCTOBER 8 EARTHQUAKE IN NWFP AND AZAD KASHMIR.... THE U.S. MILITARY HAS BROUGHT IN MORE THAN 5,000 TENTS, 290,000 BLANKETS AND 5,200 TARPS...."

4. "U.S. WILL MAKE SURE WITH GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN AND
/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 3 *****/

INTERNATIONAL DONORS TO DISTRIBUTE RELIEF SUPPLIES AMONG

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NEEDED QUAKE VICTIMS: U.S. FACT SHEET SAYS' "ISLAM"
(12/12)

"... U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS SAID THAT IT WOULD ENSURE WITH THE HELP THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN AND INTERNATIONAL DONORS THE DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES AMONG NEEDED QUAKE VICTIMS. A FACT SHEET RELEASED BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION ON DEC 11, 2005, SAYS THAT THE U.S. HAS PLEDGED TO PROVIDE PAKISTAN 510 MILLION DOLLARS FOR RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION IN QUAKE HIT AREAS....

AMERICAN HELICOPTERS HAVE FLOWN 3,370 RELIEF OPERATIONS, DELIVERING 5,901 TONS OF RELIEF GOODS THE DISASTER HIT AREAS...."

5. "U.S. USING NATO: QAZI HUSSAIN AHMAD," "UMMAT"
(12/12)

"THE CHIEF OF THE RELIGIOUS PARTIES ALLIANCE, QAZI HUSSAIN AHMAD, HAS SAID THAT THAT NATO FORCES HAVE COME TO PAKISTAN UNINVITED AND UNNECESSARILY AND SHOULD IMMEDIATELY BE SENT BACK PRIOR TO ANY PUBLIC PROTEST. HE ALLEGED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS USING NATO FOR ITS 'GREATER MIDDLE EAST' PLAN. ADDRESSING A PRESS CONFERENCE IN KARACHI, HE SAID THAT THE RELIGIOUS PARTIES ALLIANCE WAS ALSO CONCERNED AT THE PRESENCE OF THE U.S. TROOPS IN PAKISTAN. HE SAID THAT BEFORE THE PEOPLE START DEMONSTRATING AGAINST THEM, THESE TROOPS SHOULD BE SENT BACK."

6. "A DELEGATION OF U.S. FORMER AMBASSADORS AND INTELLECTUALS ARRIVES IN PAKISTAN" "NAWA-E-WAQT"
(12/12)

"... A DELEGATION OF FORMER U.S. AMBASSADORS AND INTELLECTUALS INCLUDING FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO INDIA FRANK WISNER HAS ARRIVED IN PAKISTAN. THE DELEGATION WILL MEET WITH SENIOR PAKISTANI OFFICIALS, POLITICAL LEADERS AND ACADEMICS...."

7. "BOUCHER 'NEXT US OFFICIAL' FOR S. ASIA" "DAWN"
(12/012)

"RICHARD BOUCHER, FORMER US STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, IS TIPPED TO BECOME THE NEXT US ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA, REPLACING CHRISTINA ROCCA, HIGHLY-INFORMED SOURCES AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT TOLD DAWN ON SUNDAY. MR. BOUCHER WILL HEAD THE NEWLY EXPANDED BUREAU OF SOUTH ASIA WHICH WILL NOW INCLUDE CENTRAL ASIA ALSO. AN ADDITIONAL 26 OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN

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ADDED TO THE BUREAU TO STRENGTHEN IT. AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE EFFECT WOULD BE MADE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHORTLY...."

8. "ZAWAHRI ASKS MUSLIMS TO WAGE JIHAD" "THE NEWS" 12/12/05

"USAMA BIN LADEN'S DEPUTY, IN A NEW TAPE THAT SURFACED ON SUNDAY, URGED ALL THE MUSLIMS TO TAKE UP ARMS AND SAID THEIR REFUSAL TO JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST "THE CROSS AND ZIONISM" WAS A "MALIGNANT ILLNESS" THAT WOULD ONLY LEAD TO THE DEFEAT OF MILITANT ISLAM. EGYPTIAN-BORN AYMAN AL-ZAWAHRI SAID THE GLOBAL ISLAMIC COMMUNITY HAD "NO HOPE FOR VICTORY" UNTIL ALL MUSLIMS SIGNED ON TO THE AL-QAIDA-LED JIHAD. "AS LONG AS THIS MALIGNANT ILLNESS CONTINUES TO SURVIVE WITHIN US, THERE IS NO HOPE FOR VICTORY AND THERE CAN ONLY BE MORE DEFEATS, TRAGEDIES, /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 4 *****/

DISASTERS AND BETRAYALS," AL-ZAWAHRI SAID...."

9. "FATWA CALLS FOR DEATH TO KARZAI" "DAILY TIMES" (12/12)

"TALIBAN HAVE ISSUED A FATWA (RELIGIOUS DECREE) CALLING FOR PRESIDENT HAMID KARZAI TO BE KILLED FOR SERVING AMERICAN AND BRITISH "INFIDELS". THE DECREE CAME IN A 12-PAGE PASHTO-LANGUAGE BOOKLET DISTRIBUTED IN THE AFGHAN SOUTH. IT REITERATED A CALL FOR JIHAD AGAINST INFIDELS AND THEIR SLAVES. "IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INFIDELS AND THEIR AGENTS AND JIHAD AGAINST THEM HAS BECOME INCUMBENT," THE FATWA SAID. THE DOCUMENT WAS WRITTEN BY THREE TALIBAN MUSLIM SCHOLARS AND APPROVED BY A COUNCIL OF ABOUT 100, A TALIBAN SPOKESMAN SAID...."

10. "SHERPAO DENIES QAEDA ACTIVIST'S ARREST" "DAILY TIMES" (12/12)

"INTERIOR MINISTER AFTAB AHMED KHAN SHERPAO DENIED ON SUNDAY REPORTS BY A PRIVATE TELEVISION CHANNEL OF THE ARREST OF AN AL QAEDA ACTIVIST IN RAWALPINDI. THE CHANNEL QUOTED SECURITY SOURCES AS SAYING THAT AL QAEDA ACTIVIST ABU MUHAMMAD HAD BEEN ARRESTED FROM RAWALPINDI. HOWEVER, SHERPAO SAID THAT THE REPORT WAS 'UNTRUE AND BASELESS'...."

11. "PAKISTAN, IRAN SIGN 'TERM-SHIP' OVER GAS PIPELINE PROJECT," "JANG" (12/12)

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"THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED PROGRESS ON THE PAKISTAN-IRAN-INDIA GAS PIPELINE PROJECT AND AFTER THE COMPLETION OF SEVERAL PHASES, PAKISTAN AND IRAN HAVE SIGNED THE 'TERM-SHIP' AGREEMENT, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE QUALITY, QUANTITY, PRESSURE OF GAS TO BE PROCURED FROM IRAN AND ITS POINT OF DELIVERY. THIS WAS STATED BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE SUI SOUTHERN GAS COMPANY, RASHID LONE, WHILE TALKING TO 'JANG.' HE SAID THAT IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT THE GAS PIPELINE FROM IRAN WOULD ENTER INTO PAKISTAN FROM THE KHUZDAR POINT WHERE A 'CUSTODY TRANSFER STATION' WOULD BE SET UP. HE SAID THAT PAKISTAN WOULD BE ABLE TO PURCHASE ONE BILLION CUBIC FEET OF GAS FROM IRAN IN 2011 THAT WOULD INCREASE TO TWO BILLION CUBIC FEET IN 2014. PAKISTAN WOULD PROVIDE INDIA WITH THIS GAS AT THE POINT OF BEKANAIR."

12. "IRAN ALLOWS US TO BID FOR BUILDING ITS N-PLANT"
"THE NEWS" 12/12/05

"IRAN ON SUNDAY OPENED THE DOOR FOR US HELP IN BUILDING A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, A MOVE DESIGNED TO EASE AMERICAN SUSPICIONS THAT TEHRAN IS USING ITS NUCLEAR PROGRAM AS A COVER TO BUILD ATOMIC WEAPONS. THE OFFER, WHICH DID NOT SEEM LIKELY TO WIN ACCEPTANCE IN WASHINGTON, WAS ISSUED AS ISRAEL SAID IT HAD NOT RULED OUT A MILITARY STRIKE AGAINST IRANIAN NUCLEAR FACILITIES. 'AMERICA CAN TAKE PART IN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF IRAN'S NUCLEAR POWER PLANT IF THEY OBSERVE THE BASIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY,'" FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN HAMID REZA ASEFI SAID IN A NEWS CONFERENCE. ASEFI WAS APPARENTLY TALKING ABOUT A 360-MEGAWATT LIGHT WATER NUCLEAR POWER PLANT THAT THE HEAD OF THE COUNTRY'S ATOMIC ORGANIZATION SAID ON SATURDAY WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED IN SOUTHWESTERN IRAN...."

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 5 *****/

EDITORIALS/OPINIONS

13. "DAMS: THE MISSION IMPOSSIBLE," AN OP-ED BY HASSAN BAIG IN THE LAHORE-BASED LIBERAL ENGLISH DAILY, "THE POST" (12/12)

"... THERE ARE SERIOUS DISAGREEMENTS ON THE SITES OF BIG DAMS, WITH PUNJAB IN FAVOR OF KALABAGH AND THE REMAINING

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THREE PROVINCES AGAINST THIS. THE BHASHA DAM MAY BE THE POSSIBLE OUTCOME. BUT AGAIN SINDH AND THE NWFP HAVE RESERVATIONS ON THIS DAM AS WELL. THE POLITICAL PARTIES ARE TO BE CONSULTED ON THIS ISSUE ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION MINISTER, SHEIKH RASHID AHMAD. THE INFORMATION MINISTER SAID THAT ONLY THE POLITICAL LEADERS PRESENT IN THE COUNTRY AT PRESENT WILL BE CONSULTED AND NOT THOSE IN EXILE OR OVERSEAS...."

14. "PAKISTAN'S ANTI-AMERICANISM," AN OP-ED BY MUNEEBA ADIL OMAR IN THE LAHORE-BASED LIBERAL ENGLISH DAILY, "THE POST" (12/10)

"... US-PAKISTAN RELATIONS AFTER 9/11 HAVE A CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO THE STATE OF US-PAKISTAN RELATIONS IN THE 1980S. 9/11 AND THE SUBSEQUENT WAR ON TERROR GAVE THE US A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO RESUME ECONOMIC AID TO PAKISTAN IN ORDER TO FURTHER ITS OWN CAUSE. THE WAR ON TERRORISM ALSO GAVE THE US A CREDIBLE AND JUSTIFIABLE ENOUGH EXCUSE TO CULTIVATE RELATIONS WITH GENERAL MUSHARRAF - THE SAME MILITARY FIGURE WHO HAD OVERTHROWN A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT IN 1999, AND WHOSE COUP HAD BEEN THE PRIMARY REASON FOR THE US TERMINATING AID AT THAT POINT. WHEN IT COMES TO PAKISTAN, THE US TENDS TO PUT DEMOCRATIZATION ON THE BACKBURNER AND INSTEAD PURSUES POLICIES THAT FURTHER THE US'S OWN INTERESTS AND HINDER PAKISTAN'S DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS EVIDENT IN THE US'S TACIT SUPPORT FOR MARTIAL LAW DICTATORS WHEN US INTERESTS SO REQUIRE, AND THE TERMINATION OF ECONOMIC AID WHEN ITS INTERESTS HAVE BEEN SERVED IN THE REGION...."

15. "THE DIALOGUE BRIDGE," AN OP-ED BY MUJIBUR REHMAN SHAMI IN THE CENTER-RIGHT URDU DAILY "PAKISTAN" (12/12)
"ON THE INVITATION OF DR. SHAHID MASOOD (ARY) PEOPLE FROM PAKISTAN AND INDIA ARRIVED, BUT FROM AMERICA PEOPLE LIKE ROBIN RAPHAEL, LINCOLN P. BLOOMFIELD AND DR GARRET CONG ALSO CAME. ROBIN RAPHAEL IS NOT A STRANGER FOR THE PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN, FOR HER HUSBAND DIED WITH GENERAL ZIAUL HAQ IN THE BAHAWALPUR AIR CRASH.... ROBIN RAPHAEL CAN BE DESCRIBED AS FORMER CHRISTINA ROCCA OF AMERICA.... THE DIALOGUE (SHAHID MASOOD'S THINK TANK IN DUBAI) HAS PROVIDED A SINGLE PLATFORM FOR AMERICAN AND ASIAN INTELLECT; IT IS HOPED THAT IN THE DAYS TO COME THESE CONTACTS WOULD GET MORE IMPETUS.... HOWEVER WIDE

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SHOULD BE THE SCOPE OF THE DIALOGUE CHARTER, ITS FUNDAMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY IS THE CONTACT BETWEEN AMERICA AND MUSLIM UMMAH."

16. "OLD AND NEW EUROPE," AN EDITORIAL IN THE KARACHI-BASED CENTER-LEFT INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY, "DAWN" (12/12)

"ONE CAN UNDERSTAND THE REASON WHY AMERICAN DEFENSE SECRETARY DONALD RUMSFELD IS SO FOND OF 'NEW EUROPE'. AS MORE DETAILS COME TO LIGHT ABOUT THE CIA'S **SECRET DETENTION** CENTERS WORLDWIDE, EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 6 *****/

SEEM ONLY TOO WILLING TO OFFER COOPERATION TO THE US IN THE ILLEGAL CONFINEMENT OF TERRORISM SUSPECTS. POLAND AND ROMANIA HAVE ALREADY BEEN FOUND TO HAVE OFFERED EITHER DETENTION CENTERS ON THEIR SOIL OR HELPED IN THE ARREST AND TRANSFER OF PRISONERS. ALSO TO OFFER SIMILAR "FACILITIES" TO THE CIA IS MACEDONIA, WHILE THE UN-CONTROLLED KOSOVO WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE IN NO POSITION TO KNOW, MUCH LESS RESIST, WHAT THE US INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DID. OTHER NATIONS WHICH ARE IN THE PICTURE ARE NORWAY AND GERMANY. WHILE THE FORMER CONFIRMED A SECRET CIA FLIGHT FROM OSLO TO PARIS, THE LATTER IS ANGRY OVER THE ARREST AND TORTURE OF ONE OF ITS CITIZENS. LEBANESE-BORN AL-MASRI WAS ARRESTED BY THE CIA AND FLOWN TO AFGHANISTAN, WHERE HE WAS TORTURED, STRIPPED AND PHOTOGRAPHED...."

17. "INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, INTERNATIONAL POWER AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS," AN EDITORIAL IN THE POPULAR URDU DAILY "DIN" (12/12)

"AFTER ILLEGALLY OCCUPYING IRAQ THE U.S. FORCES ARE MOVING AHEAD TO CRUSH IRAQI PEOPLE'S LOVE FOR FREEDOM BY TARGETING THEM WITH WHITE PHOSPHORUS, URANIUM AND OTHER CHEMICAL WEAPONS. THIS ALL COME IN THE PURVIEW OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.... IN THE 12 YEARS OF SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ MORE THAN 550,000 CHILDREN WERE KILLED OF HUNGER; THESE SANCTIONS CAUSED DEATH TO MORE PEOPLE THAN THE NUCLEAR ATTACKS ON HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE WORLD POWER HAS NO RIGHT TO ACCUSE IRAN, NORTH KOREA, PAKISTAN, SAUDI ARABIA, SUDAN AND CHINA OF HUMAN RIGHT VIOLATIONS."

18. "OATH OF ALLEGIANCE," A COLUMN BY IRFAN SIDDIQUI IN

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THE SECOND LARGEST URDU DAILY "NAWA-E-WAQT" (12/11)
"DECLARING OIC AS AN EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION, AMERICA HAS
WELCOMED ITS FRESH CONSIDERATION. HOWEVER, U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE SPOKESPERSON ADAM ERELI SAID TALKING
TO JOURNALISTS THAT THE DESIRE FOR REFORMS SHOULD COME
FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES. THIS COMMENT
SIGNALS TO THE AWARENESS AMERICA HAS ABOUT THE CONFLICT
AND DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND RULERS
OF ISLAMIC COUNTRIES AND THE COMMENT SHOWS THAT MECCA
DECLARATION DOES NOT REPRESENT MUSLIM UMMAH, BUT ONLY 56
RULERS OF MUSLIM COUNTRIES."

19. "MECCA DECLARATION: LIP SERVICE," AN EDITORIAL IN
THE SECOND LARGEST URDU DAILY "NAWA-E-WAQT" (12/10)
"IF OIC IS TO BE MADE REALLY EFFECTIVE AND IF IT WANTS
TO COMBAT DANGERS FACING THE MEMBER COUNTRIES THAN IT
HAS TO REARRANGE ITS PRIORITIES. PRESENTLY TWO OF ITS
MEMBER COUNTRIES, AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ, ARE UNDER U.S.
OCCUPATION, IRAN AND SYRIA ARE UNDER U.S. THREATS AND
PAKISTAN'S STRATEGIC ASSETS, KASHMIR AND NUCLEAR PROGRAM
ARE THE TARGETS OF AMERICAN AND ZIONIST LOBBY. UNTIL
THE MUSLIM COUNTRIES CONSIDER PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM
AS THEIR COLLECTIVE STRENGTH AND ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR
DEFENSE CAPABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, SUCH DECLARATIONS WOULD BE NOTHING EXCEPT
SELF DELUSORY."

20. "THE IRANIAN NUCLEAR CRISIS: A WELCOME REPRIEVE?,"
AN OP-ED BY DR. MAQSUDUL HASAN NURI IN THE CENTRIST
NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY, "THE NEWS" (12/12)
"... THE ARGUMENT THAT IRAN HAS ALREADY SUFFERED
/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 7 *****/

SANCTIONS AND A DECADE-LONG WAR AND AS SUCH CAN SURVIVE
ANOTHER BOUT OF SANCTIONS/EMBARGOES IS QUESTIONABLE.
DEMAGOGUERY ASIDE, IRAN'S CLERICAL LEADERSHIP IS
PRAGMATIC ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES OF BEING
REFERRED TO THE UNSC. IF SANCTIONS ARE CLAMPED, THE
REGIME WOULD ONLY STAND FURTHER ISOLATED AND
WEAKENED...."

21. "AS AMERICA AND CHINA COME CLOSE," AN EDITORIAL IN
THE CENTRIST NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY, "THE NEWS" (12/11)
"FIFTY-ONE YEARS AFTER JOHN FOSTER DULLES REFUSED TO
SHAKE HANDS WITH CHOU EN-LAI AT THE GENEVA ARMISTICE

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TALKS ON VIETNAM, THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA ARE SOON GOING TO BE IN A CUDDLE THAT COULD RADICALLY CHANGE GLOBAL POLITICS. FRIDAY'S SURPRISING REVELATION THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF "PURSUING THE SAME POLICY GOALS" ON IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN AND OTHER FLASHPOINTS, IS NO SCOOP BY AN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER. THE ANNOUNCEMENT COMES FROM US DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE ROBERT ZOELICK, WHO WAS SPEAKING IN WASHINGTON AFTER THE SECOND ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN SENIOR AMERICAN AND CHINESE OFFICIALS. THEY DISCUSSED "HOW CHINA COULD WORK WITH THE UNITED STATES AND OTHERS ON CHALLENGES SUCH AS IRAQ, AFGHANISTAN, IRAN AND NORTH KOREA," EXPLAINED MR ZOELICK...."

22. "UNREST IN SOUTH WAZIRISTAN" AN EDITORIAL IN SECOND LARGEST NATIONAL DAILY, "NAWA-E-WAQT" (12/10)

"... FOLLOWING 9/11 AND THE RAID ON AFGHANISTAN, THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION EXERTED PRESSURE ON PAKISTAN TO LAUNCH A MILITARY OPERATION IN WANA. THEY (THE AMERICANS) THOUGHT THAT THE LEADERS OF TALIBAN WERE HIDING IN THOSE AREAS, BUT THEY PROVED WRONG. NO TALIBAN HAS BEEN ARRESTED FROM THE AREA. THE U.S. STILL SAYS THAT PAKISTAN IS NOT TAKING PART IN WAR ON TERRORISM WITH FULL ZEST. IN FACT, PAKISTAN IS USING MILITARY FORCE AGAINST ITS OWN PEACE LOVING PEOPLE OF SOUTH WAZIRISTAN JUST TO PLEASE THE U.S. PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD STOP THIS MILITARY OPERATION IMMEDIATELY. THE PEOPLE OF WAZIRISTAN ARE THE RESPECTABLE CITIZENS OF PAKISTAN...."

23. "MENTAL SHOCK ONE AFTER ANOTHER" AN OP-ED BY NAYYER ZAIDI (WASHINGTON-BASED JOURNALIST) IN MASS CIRCULATION CENTRIST URDU DAILY, "JANG" (12/10)

"... IT IS NOT SURPRISING IF FBI OFFICIALS QUESTION A MUSLIM, JUST BECAUSE HE IS A MUSLIM, OR BECAUSE HE HAS ATTENDED A MUSLIM RELIGIOUS GATHERING. (IT'S AN ACCEPTED FACT IN THE U.S. SO) IF YOU TOLD SOMEONE THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION IS BEHAVING IN THIS MANNER, NO ONE IS GOING TO DISAGREE WITH YOU.... FOLLOWING 9/11, THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION ENACTED AN UNFAIR LAW, WHICH IS CALLED THE PATRIOT ACT. ACCORDING TO THIS ACT, THE LIBRARIES ARE BOUND TO TELL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THAT WHO IS READING WHICH BOOK. IF SOMEONE READS A BOOK ON HITLER, DOES IT MEAN THAT HE IS A NAZI? WASHINGTON

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POST HAS CARRIED A REPORT ON DECEMBER 3 THAT THOSE AMERICAN CITIZENS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO REPRESENT THE U.S. ABROAD WHO ARE CRITICAL OF PRESIDENT BUSH'S IRAQ POLICY - AND WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT REPRESENTATION THE COUNTRY ON DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENTS; WE ARE TALKING ABOUT NON-DIPLOMATIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS.. YOU MIGHT HAVE READ REPORTS THAT THE U.S. HAS OFFERED MONEY TO THE NEWSPAPER OWNERS AND REPORTERS IN IRAQ TO PUBLISH /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 8 *****/

ARTICLES IN FAVOR OF THE U.S. POLICIES. NOW, THE QUESTION IS THAT IF THE U.S. IS NOT READY TO TOLERATE CRITICISM OF ITS OWN SYSTEM, HOW IT COULD ASK ASIAN AND AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO TREAT THEIR OPPONENTS GRACIOUSLY...."

24. "U.S.-INDIA WAR GAMES" AN EDITORIAL NOTE IN POPULIST URDU DAILY, "KHABRAIN" (12/11)

"... THE U.S. AND INDIA WILL INITIATE MILITARY EXERCISE IN INDIAN STATE OF UTTARANCHAL IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR. MOREOVER THE U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE U.S. COULD PROVIDE INDIA WITH SOME STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY.... IT IS A MATTER OF CONCERN FOR PAKISTAN AND CHINA, BECAUSE IT SEEMS THAT THE U.S. IS ASSISTING INDIA TO BECOME A REGIONAL POWER. THESE ARE NOT MERE WAR GAMES; THE U.S. IS PROVIDING HIGH TECH TO INDIA THAT WILL WITHOUT ANY DOUBT CHANGE THE STRATEGIC BALANCE OF THE REGION. THOUGH PAKISTAN IS AN U.S. ALLY AND IT HAS PLAYED A FRONTLINE STATE IN THE WAR ON TERRORISM, THE U.S. IS MAKING INDIA ITS STRATEGIC PARTNER. PAKISTAN SHOULD TAKE THIS ISSUE SERIOUSLY...."

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